

REMARKS

Please consider this submission accompanying the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith.

In this submission, pending claims 18-82 have been canceled, and new claims 83-142 have been submitted for substantive examination. The subject matter of new claims 83-142 is fully supported in the specification, and therefore no new matter is believed to have been added by this amendment.

On February 3, the undersigned conducted a telephonic interview with Examiner Siefke in which the independent claims 18, 43, 46, 48 and 64 were discussed. Specifically, the features of the drivable conveyance roll, conveyance surface and conveyance gap were discussed, as well as those of the pushrod. Although no agreement was reached with respect to these claims, the newly presented claims recite subject matter that is specifically directed to the features discussed in the telephonic interview. In particular, new independent claim 83 is directed to a handheld analysis device comprising an analysis sensor to which an analytic consumable may be supplied along a conveyance path, a drivable conveyance roll, a conveyance surface separate from the drivable conveyance roll and a conveyance gap in the conveyance path and defined between the drivable conveyance roll and the conveyance surface. The drivable conveyance roll grips the analytic consumable projecting into the conveyance gap, when the drivable conveyance roll is driven, and moves the gripped analytic consumable along the conveyance path. The Lundsgaard reference does not show or disclose any such conveyance gap defined between a drivable conveyance roll and a separate conveyance surface. Accordingly, Lundsgaard cannot anticipate new claim

83. As claims 84-118 ultimately depend from claim 83, and thereby add further limitations, these claims likewise cannot be anticipated by Lundsgaard.

New independent claim 119 is directed to a handheld analysis device comprising an analysis sensor positioned within a housing and to which an analytic consumable may be supplied along a conveyance path following on an opening defined by the housing, a drivable conveyance roll, a conveyance surface separate from the drivable conveyance roll and a conveyance gap in the conveyance path and defined between the drivable conveyance roll and the conveyance surface. The drivable conveyance roll is driven to automatically grip the analytic consumable in the conveyance gap when the analytic consumable is advanced through the housing opening, and to move the gripped analytic consumable along the conveyance path. The Lundsgaard reference does not show or disclose any such conveyance gap defined between a drivable conveyance roll and a separate conveyance surface, nor does it shown or disclose such a conveyance roll being driven to automatically grip the analytic consumable in the conveyance gap when the analytic consumable is advanced through the housing opening. Accordingly, Lundsgaard cannot anticipate new claim 119. As claim 120 depends from claim 119, and thereby adds further limitations, claim 120 likewise cannot be anticipated by Lundsgaard.

New independent claim 121 is directed to a handheld analysis device comprising an analysis sensor to which an analytic consumable may be supplied along a conveyance path, a chamber containing the analytic consumable and having an opening through which the analytic consumable may pass to the conveyance path, a movable pushrod extending, when moved, into the chamber and pushing the analytic

consumable through the chamber opening at least partially into the conveyance path, and a drivable conveyance roll which, when driven, transports along the conveyance path the analytic consumable pushed by the pushrod at least partially into the conveyance path. The Lundsgaard reference does not show or disclose any such pushrod that extends, when moved, into a chamber and pushes an analytic consumable at least partially into the conveyance path through an opening defined by the chamber. Accordingly, Lundsgaard cannot anticipate new claim 121. As claims 122-142 ultimately depend from claim 121, and thereby add further limitations, these claims likewise cannot be anticipated by Lundsgaard.

Claims 83-142 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is solicited. The Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss any unresolved matters.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey A. Michael", is written over a horizontal line.

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